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DE RUEHKO #4726 2830116
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 100116Z OCT 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8389

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E.O. 12958: N/A
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SUBJECT: JAPAN PLANS CONTRIBUTION FOR IRAQ REFUGEE SUPPORT

REF: STATE 138123

Embassy Tokyo Political Officer delivered reftel demarche October 4 and followed up October 9 with MOFA Humanitarian Assistance Division Principal Deputy Director Hisanobu Mochizuki. Mochizuki said that Japan shares U.S. concerns about the growing Iraq refugee and IDP problem, and will definitely make a financial contribution from fiscal 2007 ODA funds. The Japanese government will determine the exact amount of the contribution as well as which program to contribute to "during the next months," said Mochizuki, cautioning that the amount would not be as large as the U.S. contribution.
DONOVAN